



Drawing With Cocoa

Session 305





Drawing With Cocoa

John C. Randolph
Sr. Software Engineer
Apple Worldwide Developer Relations

What We'll Cover

- How to draw using the Cocoa frameworks
- The Cocoa classes involved in 2D rendering
- Manipulating the coordinate space
- Images, paths, and text
- How the Quartz drawing model is reflected in the Cocoa framework



The Quartz 2D Imaging Model

- Familiar from Postscript, PDF, SVG
- Paths are described in terms of instructions for moving a pen in a two-dimensional space
- Paths consist of elements including moves, lines, curves, and character glyphs
- Paths can be stroked with a given line width, filled with a pattern, stroked with a dashed line style, etc.



The Quartz 2D Imaging Model (Cont.)

- Alpha-channel (transparency) support
 - Can use pre-multiplied images
- Rich set of compositing operators
 - 14 different compositing modes
 - Uses both *source* and *destination* alpha
 - Use CompositeLab to try them out



Some Good Advice

- In Cocoa development, concentrate on the code that is unique to your application
- Do not reinvent the wheel
- Change the environment to make your work easier
- As a friend of mine has said on many occasions . . .



“Use the Kit, Luke!”

- First, see if there is an easy way to do what you want to do
- Many common drawing tasks can be done with high-level AppKit classes
- Paths, colors, text, images, and coordinate transformations all have associated AppKit classes



Where Do I Draw?

- Drawing destination
 - Objects that implement **-lockFocus** and **-unlockFocus**
- NSView
 - A “Rectangle of Responsibility” in a window
- NSImage
 - A high-level, resolution-independent abstraction of images



NSView

- Provides a class for drawing, printing and handling events
- An NSView has its own coordinate space
- NSViews are arranged in a hierarchy within a window



What Is NSImage?

- A high-level abstraction for images
- A container for NSImageRep instances
- Both a *thing* to draw, and a *place* to draw
- Use NSImage to load .tiff, .jpeg, .gif, .pdf, and other image file types
- Use NSImage as a destination for off-screen drawing





Demo

Tinted Image

What I Did Wrong in That Demo

- I was not very memory-efficient
- This could be improved by re-using a “scratchpad” image, instead of creating and discarding a new tinted image every time



NSColor

- Represents not only colors, but “meta” colors, “catalog” colors, patterns,
- To paint with an NSColor, send it a **-set** message
- To create an NSColor, use methods such as:

**+colorWithPatternImage:, +whiteColor,
+colorWithCalibratedRed: green: blue: alpha:,
+controlHighlightColor**



NSImage Pitfalls

- Check the size!
 - The pixel dimensions are not the same thing as the image size. Use the **-size** and **-setSize:** methods
- Many apps get this wrong, so be alert
- Drawing scaled images
 - composite...** and **-dissolve...** methods behave differently than **-drawInRect...** methods



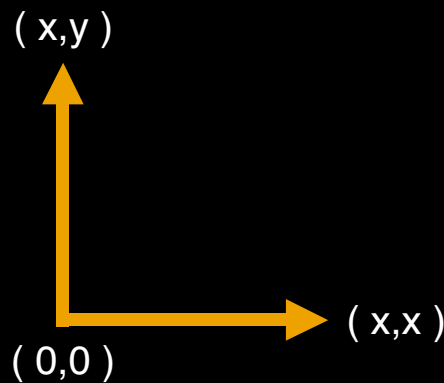
Upcoming Features of NSImage

- Progressive display
 - The delegate will be notified when the size is known, when chunks of pixels arrive, and when the entire image is finished loading
- Support for multi-frame images (animated GIFs)
 - The frames become one long bitmap



The Quartz Coordinate System

- We stole it from René Descartes: the origin is in the lower-left corner



- Coordinates are floating-point values
- Whole-number coordinates land between screen pixels



The Quartz Coordinate System (Cont.)

- If it is inconvenient, change it!
- An **NSView**'s coordinate system can be rotated, scaled, and translated with methods like **-rotateByAngle:**, **-scaleUnitSquareToSize:**, **-translateOriginToPoint:**, and **-setBoundsRotation:**
- The **NSAffineTransform** class describes any combination of scaling, translation, and rotation



The Frame Rectangle

- The rectangle describing a view's location and size in its *superview's coordinate* space
 - Get it with the **-frame** method
 - Change it with **-setFrame** and **-setFrameRotation:**



The Bounds Rectangle

- Describes the size of the view in its own coordinate space
- Defines the location of the origin
- Change it with **-setBoundsSize:**, **-setBounds:**,
-setBoundsRotation:, **-setBoundsOrigin:**
-translateOriginToPoint:, **-rotateByAngle:**
-scaleUnitSquareToSize:,



NSAffineTransform

- An object that describes operations on a coordinate space
- It has many of the same methods as NSView for changing a coordinate space: **-rotateByDegrees:**, **-translateXBy:yBy:**, **-scaleBy:**
- Transform operations can be combined using **-appendTransform:** and **-prependTransform:**



NSAffineTransform (Cont.)

- I have set up my NSAffineTransform, how do I use it?
- Operations on objects and data: **-transformPoint:**
-transformSize:, **-transformBezierPath:**
- Apply it to the current drawing context:
-set, **-concat**





Demo

Transformed View

What I Did Wrong in That Demo

- Drawing too much
 - I could have only drawn the parts that changed, using **-setNeedsDisplayInRect:**





Demo

Transformed Image

What Did I Do Wrong This Time?

- Nothing! It was perfect



NSBezierPath

- This is how you should do most vector-based drawing
- Encapsulates the Quartz 2D drawing model
 - Path construction methods
 - moveTo:, -lineTo:, -curveTo:
 - appendBezierPathWith...
 - Path attributes
 - lineJoin, -lineWidth, -miterLimit, -flatness
 - Drawing the Path
 - fill, -stroke



NSBezierPath (Cont.)

- Convenience methods:
 - +strokeLineFromPoint:toPoint:**
 - +fillRect:, +bezierPathWithOvalInRect:**
- Add your own:

If there is a shape you use a lot, add a method to NSBezierPath to draw it





Demo

StringArt View

What I Did Wrong This Time . . .

- Inefficient drawing!
- Clearing/redrawing the entire bounds
 - I should just clear the rectangle passed to me in **-drawRect:**
 - I did not re-use the bezierpath
- Made lame excuses because it is just a demo



NSBezierPath Considerations

- The rasterizer charges by the intersection
- Take care with pixel placement when stroking a path
- Check whether you are drawing for the screen or the printer



The Graphics State

- Looking for **gsave** and **grestore**?
- You just found them!
- The NSGraphicsState class keeps a stack of graphics states, just like Postscript
- NSGraphicsState methods: **+ saveGraphicsState**, **+ restoreGraphicsState**, **- setShouldAntiAlias**: **+ currentContextDrawingToScreen**, etc.



Kit Functions and Macros

- Rectangle drawing functions
 - **NSRectFill(), NSRectFillList(), NSRectFillListWithColors(), NSRectFillUsingOperation(), NSRectFillListWithColorsUsingOperation()**
- Geometry Conveniences
 - **NSDivideRect(), NSContainsRect(), NSEqualRects(), NSMakeRect(), NSMouseInRect(), NSHeight(), NSWidth(), NSMinX, NSMaxY(),** and so on . . .
- If you think it should be there, look for it;
It probably exists



Drawing Strings

- The AppKit adds drawing methods to NSString:
 - drawAtPoint:withAttributes:**,
 - drawInRect:withAttributes:**,
 - sizeWithAttributes:**
- . . And to NSAttributedString:
 - drawAtPoint:, -drawInRect:, -size**



Drawing With NSCell

- Cells are objects that draw themselves in Views
- Use a Cell when the overhead of an NSView is not necessary
- The AppKit includes NSCell classes for drawing images and text



Drawing With NSCell (Cont.)

- Use a Cell for drawing lines or blocks of editable text
- Cells can be re-used, as in NSBrowser and NSTableView
- NSControl subclasses typically have a cell do all their drawing



Drawing With NSCell (Cont.)

- A cell is often a good starting point for your custom drawing
- Cells do their drawing in **-drawInRect:inView:**
- In a cell subclass, you can use the inherited drawing behavior





Demo

Cells and Views

Conclusion

- We saw how to draw using the classes in the Cocoa framework
- And how to do some sophisticated things with not much code at all

Cocoa: *Simple things simple,
Complex things possible*



Cocoa Documentation

- Object-Oriented Programming and the Objective-C Language
- Programming Topics
 - Application Architecture
 - Memory Management
 - Foundation Framework
 - Multithreading
 - Loading Resources
 - Notifications

and many more!

Documentation > Cocoa

developer.apple.com/techpubs/macosx/Cocoa/CocoaTopics.html



For More Information

- O'Reilly “Learning Cocoa” and “Building Cocoa Applications: A Step-by-Step Guide”

- Cocoa Developer Documentation

<http://developer.apple.com/techpubs/macosx/Cocoa/CocoaTopics.html>

- Apple Customer Training

<http://train.apple.com/>



Roadmap

300 Introduction to Cocoa:

What is Cocoa?

Room A1
Mon., 5:00pm

301 Cocoa: What's New?

Civic
Tues., 9:00am

303 Cocoa Scripting:

Scripting overview and recent changes

Room A2
Thurs., 10:30am

304 Cocoa Controls and Cocoa Accessibility

Overview of controls; new Accessibility APIs

Room A2
Thurs., 5:00pm



Roadmap

305 Cocoa Drawing:
Drawing using Cocoa APIs

Hall 2
Fri., 10:30am

306 Cocoa Text:
In-depth overview of the text system

Room J
Fri., 2:00pm

FF016 Cocoa:
Comments and suggestions for Cocoa

Room A1
Fri., 5:00pm



Who to Contact

Heather Hickman

Cocoa Technology Manager
Apple Worldwide Developer Relations
hhickman@apple.com

Cocoa Feedback

cocoa-feedback@group.apple.com

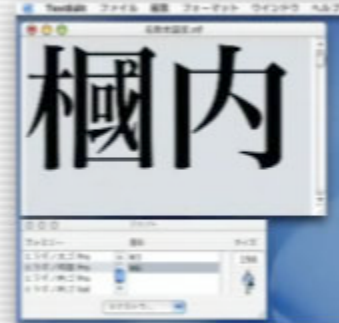
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